

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

OMB-01 SAM-01 IO-10 /070 W
----- 052585

R 260740Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2632

INFO AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY SANAA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 0443

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TC, YE, YS

SUBJ: VISIT OF OMANI ENVOY

REF: MUSCAT 32, SANAA 474

1. DCM FEB 25 ASKED MFA DIRECTOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS, GHANEM MAZRU'I ABOUT CALL ON SHAIKH ZAYID BY VISITING UNDER SECRETARY MFA OF OMAN REPORTED IN PRESS FEB 24. MAZRU'I RESPONDED THAT HE NOT AWARE OF CONTENTS OF MESSAGE DELIVERED FROM SULTAN QABOOS, STATING MATTER BEING TIGHTLY HELD. MAZRU'I WENT ON, HOWEVER, AT SOME LENGTH REGARDING CLOSENESS OF TIES BELTEEN OMAN AND UAE AND VARIETY COMMON INTERESTS. HE CITED AS SPECIFIC EXAMPLE RECENT TRIP OF PDRY FONMIN WHO HAD VISITED BAHRAIN AND DOHA BUT WHO HAD NOT COME TO UAE. MAZRU'I DID NOT RESPOND DIRECTLY TO INQUIRY AS TO WHETHER UAE HAD SUGGESTED SUCH VISIT NOT WELCOME, BUT DID STATE THAT IT SEEMED TO BE DEAD ISSUE FOR PRESENT. MAZRU'I CITED COMMON HISTORICAL HERITAGE OF OMAN AND UAE--"THEY WERE AS ONE"--AS REASON WHY UAE POSITION MIGHT BE DIFFERENT REGARDING SUCH VISIT THAN THAT OF TWO NEIGHBORING UPPER-GULF STATES. MAZRU'I ALSO NOTED THAT WHILE UAE WITH SMALL MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT COULD NOT HELP OMAN DIRECTLY IN
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THIS FASHION, IT DID, OF COURSE, HAVE SUBSTANTIALLY GREATER WEALTH

THAN ITS NEIGHBOR AND THUS WAS ABLE TO ASSIST IN OTHER WAYS. (AGAIN MAZRU'I REFUSED TO BE PINNED DOWN AS TO SPECIFICS SUCH HELP.) IN SHORT, MAZRU'I SAID, THERE WAS MUCH THAT EMISSARY MIGHT HAVE DISCUSSED WITH ZAYID.

2. COMMENT: WHILE MAZRU'I STATEMENTS HARDLY PROVIDE DEFINITIVE ANSWER AS TO PURPOSE OMAN OFFICIAL'S VISIT, THEY WERE UNUSUALLY PRECISE IN THEIR PRO-OMAN, ANTI-PDRY, DHOFAR REBELS THRUST. PARTICULARLY INTERESTING WAS STRONG INDICATION THAT PDRY FONMIN MAY WELL HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT HIS VISIT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE AT THIS TIME. THIS IS NOT

RESPONSE WE WOULD HAVE ANTICIPATED AND WE WILL SEEK FURTHER OPPORTUNITY TO PIN DOWN UAEG THINKING ON THIS ISSUE. FOR PRESENT, HOWEVER, IT APPEARS PDRY PROSPECTS FOR ESTABLISHING RELATIONS WITH UAE NOT VERY BRIGHT.

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